

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-26 are pending.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Yahiro (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0037745).

The present invention provides a method for controlling the connection of a wireless communication device with peripherals. The prior art continuously and constantly scans for available peripherals. The inventive method determines when it is likely that the user will want to use a peripheral for a specific function upon the occurrence of an event. For example, when a mobile telephone receives an SMS message, the user may want to print it, so the mobile phone looks for, and connects to, a printer in anticipation of the user's need. A digital camera will find and connect to a printer upon taking a picture, in anticipation of the user wanting to print the picture.

Yahiro teaches a data management system with a radio apparatus that manages the storage of various data on a number of peripherals. The radio apparatus keeps track of storage locations among the peripherals so the user does not have to remember each place he stores data.

Claim 1 has been amended to be patentably distinct over Yahiro. In amended Claim 1, the peripheral device is located and connected to *before* any user request when the peripheral is likely to be utilized. The subject matter of Claims 2 and 7 have been incorporated into Claims 1 and 6, respectively. Claims 2 and 7 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Amended Claim 1 recites a wireless communication device with search means that searches for a peripheral *before* a user request and when the detection means detects that the peripheral device is likely to be utilized, and a control means that sets a flag according to the availability of the peripheral device. Amended Claim 6 recites searching for a peripheral when it is detected that the peripheral is likely to be used *before* the user

actually requests the peripheral device, and setting a flag according to availability of the peripheral device.

Yahiro teaches a method for locating and using peripherals to store data thereon. Peripherals are found, and connected when *actually* used, not when they are *likely* to be used. The Examiner believes that Yahiro teaches the limitations of Claims 1 and 2 in paragraphs 54-57 and 87. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected on the same basis as Claims 1 and 2.

The cited passage (paragraphs 54-57) does not teach searching for a peripheral when it is *likely* to be used *and before* a user request. Yahiro looks for the peripheral when it *actually is* going to be used and after the user decides to store data on the peripheral (see par. 32). The cited passage merely describes the process of locating the peripheral and generating an error message if it is not found.

Similarly, paragraph 87 does not teach or suggest searching for a peripheral when it is *likely* to be used *and before* a user request. Paragraph 87 states:

[0087] As described above, the radio apparatus 20 with a memory device automatically stores and controls the data the data-processing apparatus 10 has acquired. Hence, the apparatus 20 can store data in an appropriate memory device. The user need not designate a memory device into which the data should be stored.

Just because the user does not designate the memory device in which to store the data does not mean the memory device is not used. Stating that the user need not designate a memory device only shows the automatic nature of the system. Yahiro teaches a data management system that automatically manages storage locations to eliminate the need to keep track of where data is stored.

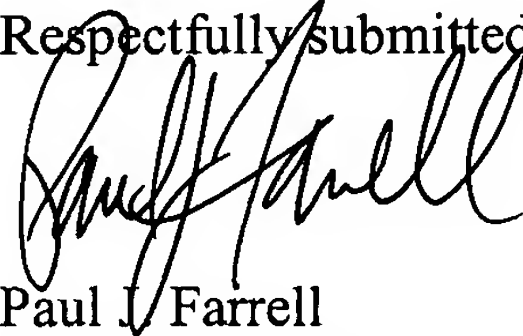
In addition, Yahiro does not teach or suggest a controller for setting a flag according to the availability of the peripheral as recited in Claim 1, or the step of setting a

flag according to the availability of the flag as recited in Claim 6.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 and 6 are allowable over the cited reference and further, respectfully requested that their rejections be withdrawn. Since the remaining claims depend from either Claim 1 or Claim 6, they should be allowable at least on that basis as well.

All of the claims pending in the Application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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